

NORTH DAKOTA STATE REHABILITATION COUNCIL
QUARTERLY MEETING
JOB SERVICE ND
October 22-23, 2019

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Members Present: Tina Bay, Shannon Cook, Joseph Hall, Bruce Klootwyk, Marshall Longie, Matthew McCleary, Bruce Murry, Terry Peterson, Gillian Plenty Chief, Renae Speidel-Wetzsteon, Jason Sutheimer, Gerry Teevens, Robyn Throlson, Trevor Vannett, Jodi Webb (phone)

Members Absent: Uma Hoffman, Teresa Larsen

Others Present: Cinthia Goulet representing Client Assistance Program/Teresa Larsen

Trevor Vannett called the meeting to order. There was quorum.

Action: A motion was made by Shannon Cook and seconded by Bruce Klootwyk to accept the agenda. Motion carried by unanimous decision.

Approval of April and July 2019 Minutes

Action: A motion was made by Shannon Cook and seconded by Bruce Klootwyk to approve the minutes. Motion carried by unanimous decision.

VR Directors Update – Robyn Throlson

- VR continues to experience turnover.
- DHS has restructured. There is a new position called the “Director of Community Inclusion”. This position replaces Tom Solberg as supervisor of VR in addition to the Aging and DD divisions.
- VR continues to provide customized employment training to community rehabilitation providers through a contract with Minot State University.
- As part of the Governor’s initiative, a new logo has been rolled out for state agencies and governor-appointed committees. The new logo for the SRC is at the top of the agenda.
- The VR State office will remain on the second floor of the Job Service Central Office building. As a result, Job Service will remodel the floor. They have provided us with space on the first floor to use during construction, but due to the limited space, the administrators are primarily working from their homes. The tentative timeline for completion is the end of February 2020.

Parking Fees – Patty Wanner

Funding gained from ticketing people who park illegally in accessible parking spaces was being directed through the mayor's committees. Per North Dakota Century Code 39-01-15.11, fifty percent of the fee imposed and collected under this subsection is appropriated on a continuing basis to the state rehabilitation council for the development of competitive and integrated employment opportunities.

Action: The sub-committee on employment of people with disabilities will assist with moving the process forward by reaching out to the current mayor's committees and inquiring how they have utilized the funding in the past and ask for ideas of how they would like to see the funding be used.

Action: Patty will follow-up with DHS Fiscal Administration staff on their efforts to notify the city auditors of the new requirement and will define the process of receiving the funds and directing them to the SRC.

Audio Bridge – Joe Hall

Joe suggested providing an audio bridge for anyone who wants to call-in for public comment and/or for when SRC members are not able to attend in person.

Action: Joe will check if we can use this technology and if it will meet the committee needs.

ND Career Builders Presentation – Lisa Johnson

The 2019 North Dakota Legislative Assembly passed House Bill 1171, creating a skilled workforce scholarship and student loan repayment program aimed at attracting people into high need and emerging occupations in the state. The result is the ND Career Builders Scholarship & Loan Repayment program. The North Dakota University System and institutions across the state, along with agency partners including the ND Workforce Development Council, ND Commerce Department, the Bank of North Dakota, and Job Service of North Dakota are promoting this opportunity for both students and employers. The scholarship and loan repayment programs target the workforce needs of North Dakota. The goal is to reduce the number of unfilled skilled workforce jobs that require a two-year degree or less. See the link below for more information.

<https://ndus.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2019/08/ND-Career-Builders-Quick-Facts-Sheet.pdf>

VR Regional Updates

Jamestown – Wes Heinley

- 57 successful closures which was 114% of their goal

- Had some turnover of staff but are currently fully staffed
- All counselors are working on completing CRC requirements
- One counselor just passed the CRC exam
- Provide outreach to seven different counties
- Pre-employment transition services contracts have been expanded in their region
- Focus on increasing work experience for students with disabilities
- The vision rehabilitation specialists exceeded their goal with older individuals who are blind

Minot – Peter Yung

- Seven counselors, six of whom have their master's degrees and the remaining counselor is working on it
- One counselor participating in "Emerging Leaders" training in Washington
- Provide outreach to seven counties
- Met or exceeded all their goals
- Transition services – all counselors do outreach for over 30 schools in the region
- Have four pre-employment transition service contracts in their region serving many schools
- Have a strong local "Community of Practice" which assists with multi-agency communication and collaboration
- Completing Section 511 interviews and offering to those people making sub-minimum wage, a chance for competitive integrated employment
- Participate in volunteer activities to give back to their community
- Hosted a teacher through the VR teacher internship program over the summer

Public Comment

None

Motion: A motion was made by Gillian Plenty Chief and seconded by Shannon Cook, to adjourn for the day.

Wednesday, October 23, 2019

Members Present: Tina Bay, Shannon Cook, Joseph Hall, Bruce Klootwyk, Marshall Longie, Matthew McCleary, Bruce Murry, Terry Peterson, Gillian Plenty Chief, Renae Speidel-Wetzsteon, Jason Sutheimer, Gerry Teevens, Robyn Throlson, Trevor Vannett, Jodi Webb (phone)

Members Absent: Uma Hoffman, Teresa Larsen

Others Present: Cinthia Goulet representing Client Assistance Program/Teresa Larsen

Trevor Vannett called the meeting to order. There was quorum.

Duties of the Chairperson and Chairperson Elect

Robyn Throlson reviewed the duties of the Chairperson and Chairperson Elect

Appoint Chairperson Elect

Motion: A motion was made by Jason Sutheimer and seconded by Bruce Murry to nominate Bruce Klootwyk for the position of Chairperson Elect and Bruce Klootwyk accepted the nomination. The motioned passed unanimously 14-0.

Yes Votes:

Tina Bay, Joseph Hall, Bruce Klootwyk, Marshall Longie, Gerry Teevens, Bruce Murry, Gillian Plenty Chief, Jason Sutheimer, Trevor Vannett, Matthew McCleary, Renae Speidel-Wetzsteon, Terry Peterson, Shannon Cook, Jodi Webb (phone)

No Votes: none

Membership Report

We are at 50% for disability requirement for the full SRC committee.

Action: Barb will email the full committee to make sure they've disclosed if they have a disability.

Action: Barb will talk with Pete Rubke about including the information regarding SRC membership on his Alignable page.

Action: Barb will draft a bylaw change to include attending at least one SRC orientation as a requirement.

Action: Barb will track who attends orientation.

Resource Committee

Did not meet

Planning and Evaluation Committee

- Discussed the Unified State Plan. Under WIOA the required partners include Job Service and Adult Ed and Literacy. The group is in the initial stages of preparing a new plan. The plan is due March 30, 2020.
- VR met all statewide goals for 2019.
- VR has been involved in off-site monitoring by RSA – a report will be forthcoming and an exit call with RSA will be scheduled.
- VR receives quarterly reports on customer satisfaction. The committee would like to have the summary report available at future sub-committee meetings.

Employment for People with Disabilities Committee

Funding gained from ticketing people who park illegally in accessible parking spaces was being directed through the mayor's committees. Per North Dakota Century Code 39-01-15.11, fifty percent of the fee imposed and collected under this subsection is appropriated on a continuing basis to the state rehabilitation council for the development of competitive and integrated employment opportunities.

Action: Cheryl will research where the spending authority lies.

Action: Committee needs to read the bill.

Discussion on new structure for SRC meetings

Discussion on the SRC meeting being one day rather than two. SRC members from out of town who want to travel in prior to the first day of the meeting still could. Members want a rolling agenda instead of having time frames, to better utilize members time.

Action: Barb will format the next agenda without timeframes as a rolling agenda.

Motion: Gerry Teevens made a motion and Jodi Webb seconded, to have the SRC meeting be one day, rather than two and have a rolling agenda. Motion carried.

Tribal Update – Marshall Longie

- They did get their grant and got additional funding
- Served 174 – surpassed their goal to serve 100
- 58 employed
- 49 closed successful
- 17 OJTs

Donna Thompson was not available for the scheduled call.

2020 Meeting Dates

January 15, 2020

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Polycom

April 22, 2020

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. In-Person

July 22, 2020

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. In-Person

October 21, 2020

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. In-Person

Location will be at Job Service: 1601 E. Century Ave. Bismarck, ND.

Motion: Joe Hall made a motion and Gerry Teevens seconded to approve the meeting dates and adjourn. Motion carried.